

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 CIEP-03 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 /173 W

----- 103030

R 240830Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY MBABANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6657

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L MBABANE 1369

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, WA, WZ

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: CONVERSATION BETWEEN AMBASSADOR AND
MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR JULY 23 MINISTER
OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS STEPHEN MATSEBULA ASKED
WHETHER U.S. WAS CONSIDERING CHANGING ITS POSITION ON
NAMIBIA. MATSEBULA INQUIRED WHETHER U.S. SUPPORTED
INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE OPINION THAT OCCUPATION
BY SOUTH AFRICA WAS ILLEGAL. MATSEBULA ALSO COMMENTED
THAT HE FOUND IT UNFORTUNATE AND UNWISE FOR AMERICAN
INVESTMENTS TO BE GOING INTO NAMIBIA IN VIEW OF ILLEGAL
REGIME THERE. MATSEBULA SAID THIS COULD COST AMERICAN
INVESTORS IN FUTURE IF, AS APPEARS LIKELY, MILITARY
CONFRONTATION OCCURS. IN FUTURE, WHEN MAJORITY RULE COMES
TO NAMIBIA, AN INDEPENDENT REGIME MIGHT WELL CONSIDER NA-
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TIONALIZATION THESE INVESTMENTS. IN VIEW THIS SITUATION,

MATSEBULA SAID HE WISHED MAKE REPRESENTATION TO U.S. THAT IT SHOULD TAKE STRONGER STAND ON NAMIBIA.

2. AMBASSADOR REPLIED U.S. CONCURRED IN OPINION THAT SOUTH AFRICA WAS ILLEGALLY ADMINISTERING SOUTHWEST AFRICA, OR NAMIBIA. USG DISCOURAGED INVESTMENTS BUT SOME AMERICAN INVESTORS DECIDED TO INVEST IN NAMIBIA DESPITE POLITICAL RISKS INVOLVED. AMBASSADOR ADDED THERE WAS ALSO VIEW HELD BY SOME THAT PRIVATE INVESTMENT HELPED SITUATION BY PROVIDING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR AFRICANS AND IN LONG RUN COULD BE FACTOR IN PROMOTING PEACEFUL TRANSITION TO MAJORITY RULE. MATSEBULA REPLIED THAT AMERICAN INVESTORS COULD LATER REGRET THEIR ACTIONS. HE ADDED THAT U.S., BY NOT TAKING STRONGER POSITION ON NAMIBIA, SOMETIMES MADE IT DIFFICULT FOR ITS FRIENDS WHEN IT CAME TIME TO VOTE OR ABSTAIN ON OTHER ISSUES OF INTEREST TO U.S.
BOLEN

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Remarks:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JUL 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <26 FEB 2003 by kelleyw0>
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30 JUN 2005

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